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Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 IO-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3602
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11268
LIMDIS
E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT VS
SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF GVN DEL TO REGION II JMC ON
TPJMC DEVELOPMENTS

FOL SENT ACTION SAIGON FM DANANG AND RPTD FOR YOUR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 758

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT VS
SUBJ: COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF GVN DELEGATION TO REGION II JMC
ON TPJMC DEVELOPMENTS

1. COL DO TUNG, CHIEF OF THE GVN DELEGATION TO THE REGION
II JMC, RETURNED JUNE 19 FROM MEETINGS OF JMC REGION CHIEFS
IN SAIGON WHERE HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON CURRENT STATUS OF
CEASEFIRE EFFORTS. DURING A DINNER JUNE 20, WITH EMBASSY
POLOFF, CONGEN POLOFF AND ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER, TUNG MADE
THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE CEASEFIRE AND PRG
DEPLOYMENT, WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST:

2. PRG DEPLOYMENTS: TUNG JUDGES THAT, BASED ON THE STATE
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OF PLAY IN THE TPJMC MEETINGS IN SAIGON, PRG DEPLOYMENT IS NOT IMMINENT. TUNG EXPECTS THAT THE FIRST ACTION BY THE PRG WILL BE TO REQUIRE TRANSPORTATION FOR PRG FROM LOCATIONS SUCH AS GIO LINH IN REGION I AND TRA MY IN REGION II TO SAIGON FOR A GENERAL MEETING OF PRG DELEGATES. TUNG SUGGESTED THAT THE PRG WILL DEPLOY SOMETIME FOLLOWING THAT MEETING.

3. TUNG FEELS THAT THE REGIONAL TPJMC HEADQUARTERS WILL REMAIN IN DANANG BUT SEES THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE PRG WILL DEMAND TEAM SITES BE PLACED CLOSER TO THE LINES OF DEMARCATION THAN THE CURRENT ICCS SITES AT HOI AN, TAM KY AND CHU LAI.

4. TUNG SAID THAT THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS OF LEVEL OF CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND THE MEANS OF DETERMINING ZONES OF CONTROL ARE STILL FAR FROM BEING DECIDED.

5. LONGER TERM DEVELOPMENTS: TUNG IS NOT OPTIMISTIC FOR THE LONGER TERM. WHILE AGREEING THAT A CEASEFIRE IS POSSIBLE IN I CORPS HE SEES SUBSTANTIAL COMPLICATIONS ESPECIALLY IN IV CORPS PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO DETERMINING ZONES OF CONTROL.

6. HE SEES THE PRG ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A " THIRD VIET NAM" IN THE WEST AS A SHORT TERM (2-5 YEARS) TACTIC. HOWEVER, HE FEELS THAT THE PRG RECOGNIZES THAT TO ATTEMPT A THIRD VIET NAM OVER THE LONGER RUN WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE DRAWING POWER OF A RAPIDLY DEVELOPING SOUTH VIET NAM FOR THOSE IN THE WEST. THEREFORE THE IDEA OF A GENERATIONAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO SOUTH VIET NAMS IS NOT IN THE CARDS.

7. RATHER, TUNG SEES THE THIRD VIET NAM AS A SHORT TERM BASE TO RE- INITIATE A LOW LEVEL INSURGENCY WITH THE GOAL OF ERODING GVN PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, AS WAS DONE IN NORTH VIET NAM IN 1945 AND SOUTH VIET NAM BEGINNING ABOUT 1960. TUNG FEARS THAT WITH THIS KIND OF EFFORT, GIVEN THE FRAILITIES OF THE GVN SUCH AS CORRUPTION AND NEPOTISM, THE PRG COULD WELL CONTEST POLITICALLY WITH THE GVN WITHIN 5 YEARS. THOMSEN UNQTE WHITEHOUSE

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